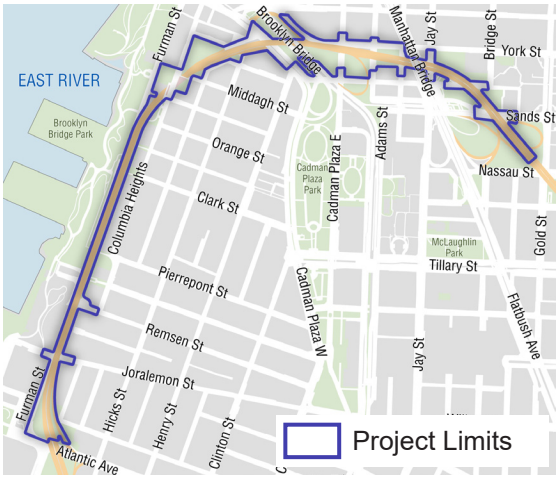
BQE Central Project Overview

An overview of the project, why it's needed, and what to expect.

BQE Central is the approximately 1.5-mile stretch of the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway between Atlantic Avenue and Sands Street. NYC DOT owns BQE Central (12% of the BQE in Brooklyn) and New York State owns the rest. BQE Central has 21 bridges and structures, including the "triple cantilever", which has two levels of highway with the Brooklyn Heights Promenade above and a local street, Furman Street, below.

What is NYC DOT Proposing?

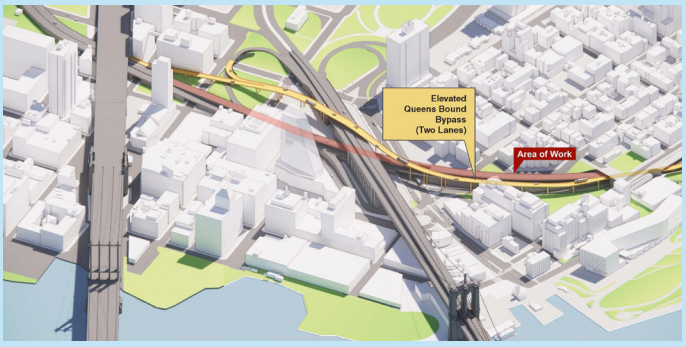
NYC DOT is proposing to repair and strengthen BQE Central: this work is called rehabilitation. This would extend the life of the structure by apprximately 40 years. NYC DOT will fix deteriorated parts of the structures, improve drainage and lighting, and replace or upgrade railings. The highway will remain two lanes and will not expand, nor will interchanges be altered.



Construction Overview

To avoid traffic diverting to local streets while making repairs, NYC DOT will build temporary roads, called bypasses*, next to parts of the existing highway. The bypasses will be removed after construction is complete.

A double bypass would travel over Furman St from Atlantic Avenue to Columbia Heights, maintaining both directions of traffic. This bypass would be no higher than the existing Queens-bound level.



The current design shows a Queens-bound only bypass that would travel from Columbia Heights to just before the Manhattan Bridge, travelling over the BQE itself as well as the approach to the Brooklyn Bridge.

Construction is expected to begin in 2029 and finish by 2040. This includes building and dismantling the bypasses.

Why is this project needed?

BQE Central carries people, goods, emergency vehicles, and freight through Brooklyn and the region. However, BQE Central is over 70 years old and needs repairs to remain safe for the traveling public and keep all these vehicles off local streets. This project would:

- Address structural deterioration
- Maintain regional connectivity and mobility
- Rehabilitate the Brooklyn Heights Promenade to keep it in a state of good repair
- Maintain the option for future long-term planning of the BQE Corridor

Long-term construction activities will be underway for several years. That is why NYC DOT encourages your participation in the environmental review process.

To learn more, visit:
nyc.gov/bqe
Or scan the QR code:

**Bypass alignments shown are illustrative and will be refined throughout the engagement process.*

NEW YORK CITY DOT

BQEcentral